

HIP Integration

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Developer

Tester

Localization

User Assistance

Usability

Product Planning

Introduction

This doc is a *very rough cut* at integration scenarios and requirements between HIP and the MSN E-mail client. It's not prioritized yet, so don't be alarmed if some ideas and requirements seem a bit off-the-wall. We're just exploring at this point.

Scenarios

Upsell. When Abby takes digital photos, she saves them on her PC's hard drive. After installing MSN9, the next time Abby goes to save digital photos from her camera, MSN offers to use MSN Photos. Also, whenever she uses a feature that has photo integration (Email Insert Pictures, Dashboard, etc.) and isn't yet an MSN Photos user, MSN9 advertises MSN Photos to her. She decides to give it a try, and immediately finds a great value in it. She uses the Organizer to view, arrange, and label her images.

Insert Photos into E-mail (from PC). After coming back from vacation, she writes an email to her friends and clicks Insert Pictures. The File | Open dialog that appears is now souped-up: it incorporates the HIP Organizer, giving her rich views on her photos in the view that she's now used to. It's super-easy to multi-select photos, or entire folders.

Send and Publish. MSN9 tells Abby that she can save a lot of space in her e-mail if she send links instead of image files. After she clicks Send (or perhaps while she's writing her message), she can upload the photos to MSN Photos online. A new folder is automatically created (with the Subject of the email as its default title), access rights are specified (based on the To: line?), the photos are uploaded at full fidelity, and are replaced with HREFs in the e-mail body. This process may take a while over 56k, so it can happen in the background, either while the message is open, or while it's in the Outbox.

Abby later uses the Organizer to re-arrange the photos, moving them into another folder. The links that she sent out to her friends still need to work.

When she sends her vacation photos, she used a cool stationery, and typed a message to her friends. It would be great if the layout, stationery content, and message were all uploaded to MSN Photos.

Photo Editing. Before she sent the message, Abby actually fixed red eye in two of her images, then changed another one to black & white. When the images are published to the online store, they keep these edits, and they keep full image fidelity, even if the edits were made to scaled-down images in the e-mail. Abby also has the option to apply these edits to the originals on her

HD.

Effects work the same way in e-mail as they do in the PictureIt editor.

Does PictureIt retain effects layers?

Insert Photos into E-mail (from Web). After her next vacation, Abby saves her photos to her HD, but also publishes them to MSN Photos to share with her friends. Again, she writes an email to her friends and clicks Insert Pictures. The File | Open dialog gives her access to all of these online photos. When she inserts them into the email, they're added as HREFs by default to save space. She puts 10 people on the To: line, and even though they don't have explicit access rights to her MSN Photos folder, they can still view the photos. Abby can choose whether to limit access to only those 10, or to allow access to anyone they forward the links to.

Receiving Photos in E-mail. Abby's friend sends her 4 photos in email as attachments. They're about 300k each. MSN Client has a feature that lets you save attachments to your HD. That feature recognizes that these files are images, so it gives Abby the option of using the Organizer to save these files, either to the HD, or to the online store. The tool then optionally removes the images from the e-mail to save space, and replaces them with URLs to the image in the Organizer (HD or online).

The same is true when the images are imbedded, rather than attached.

The next day, her more web-saavy friend sends her an email with image *links*. Abby knows that these images may not be around forever, so she uses the same attachment tool to automatically grab a set (multi-selectable) of those images and store them in the Organizer (HD or online).

Dashboard / Screen Saver / Calendar background. Abby wants her screen saver to show a certain photo from her HD, her MSN Photos online store, or someone else's MSN Photos online store that she has access to. She also wants to be able to cycle through photos in a particular folder. When her PC is not connected, any online images still appear because they've been cached locally. Abby can also push photos to these locations on her friends' PCs.

Photos on Calendar. Abby goes to month view. For the vacation she took two weeks ago, she sees the first photo in the folder, right in the day's background. She clicks it and, it launches the Organizer so she can view that folder of photos. She also sees the *shared* folder from her neice's graduation.

Requirements

Universal File Picker.

- Can be called from any MSN app. (Tile, Dashboard, E-Mail, etc.)
- Allows for the various methods of file picking:
 1. classic File | Open. Uses native Windows File | Open code so that it works seamlessly from Win9x, NT, XP, and beyond.
 2. HIP Organizer (PC). Leverages all the great views from the Organizer. Lets the user do basic reorganization and editing tasks (much like you can rename and delete files in basic File | Open today)
 3. HIP Organizer (Web). Gives access to online photos in the user's Web store. (Ideally also gives access to photos that are in other users' stores but are shared to Abby).
- Multi-select is super-obvious (checkboxes on each image thumbnail, for example).
- Still allows for Attach File scenarios that our current dialog supports.

- There should be a nearly identical file picker for the Web Documents store, so users can learn one way to get at online files, whether they're photos or docs.

Online photos.

- Individual photos are URL addressable. URL is preserved even when Abby reorganizes her photos into different folders. (Access rights issues here).
- If photos are no longer available, a friendly replacement "sorry" image needs to be returned, not a 404.
- Access rights:
 - Allow anyone (if use direct URL)
 - Allow no one
 - Allow list
 - API to update the allow list based on e-mail addresses. (Hard credentials problem here).
- Showing photos/folders on the calendar. API to get photo pointers for a particular date range.

Send and Publish

- API to upload photos in the background. Fault-tolerance somewhere in the system, so that upload can continue after connection is dropped and re-established.
 - Creates new folder
 - Specifies access rights
 - Returns URLs to photos, and perhaps thumbnails.
- Upload/sync background content in the message?

Editing

- Can upload effects layers in addition to base image??
- Universal editing engine and shared features – zero work for E-mail client?

Receive

- Picker that recognizes attached, imbedded, or linked Images in e-mail. Provides multi-select UI so user can choose which images to grab.
- Hands off those images to the Organizer, which saves them on HD or online.
- Organizer returns URLs to those images, so they can be replaced in the message body.

Communities integration in these scenarios?

Spec History

Take: changes made: author:

From: Kevin Kim [kkirn@microsoft.com]
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2003 7:15 PM
To: Jay Fluegel
Cc: Kurt Weber
Subject: Alerts for Photos

Hello Jay,

I had a random thought about a way for us to get Alerts for photos for cheap and wanted to run it by you. All photo sharing in MSN9 is done by composing emails on the MSN client. This means that whenever a user has photos shared to them, they will receive an email. Users already get an alert when they receive an email. How does this work? Would it be possible to recognize that this is a "photomail" (we could include a tag in the mail?), and have the alert say "you've received photos from ..."?

Taking that a step further, would it be possible to group all of the photomail alerts into a photomail group in the Alerts history (presumably in the dashboard and in messenger?).

Thanks,

Kevin

Updated: Photomail Designs - Meeting

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Actions Help

Accept Tentative Decline Calendar

This meeting is not in the Calendar; it may have been moved or deleted.

Sent: Fri 2/28/2003 3:52 PM

From: Kevin Kiro [mailto:kevin@microsoft.com]

Revised: Kurt Weber, Chris Shandaghi (Microsoft), Ben Truative

Optional

Subject: Updated: Photomail Designs

Location: Conf Room Redwood 327 (10)

When: Tuesday, March 04, 2003 8:00 PM-9:00 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Sorry for the late hour...

Let's keep working through the designs. Thanks for sending out the latest Chris!

Kevin

From: Kevin Kirn [kkirn@microsoft.com]
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2003 3:21 PM
To: Lara Ferroni; Eric Doerr; Ben Truelove; Brian Fenn
Subject: PhotoMail tool

Can you guys give this a try and see if my instructions work for you? I'm waiting until Brian gives the all clear to send out mail to the whole team, but I want to make sure these instructions make sense.

Thanks,

Kevin

Hello,

The Client team's part of PhotoMail won't be ready for any sort of testing until 3/28, but until then, you can try out PhotoMail with the test tool Steve and Peter built. It's not hard to use, so give it a try!

- 1) Install the latest build of Picture It! This installs the Photo Picker on your machine.
- 2) Copy the following folder to your machine:
\\hipbul\Public\stevefr\PhotoPicker
<file:///\\hipbul\Public\stevefr\PhotoPicker> . DO NOT RUN FROM THE SHARE!
- 3) Copy the following folder to the root of your c: drive:
\\stevefrdev1\public\slideshow. You should end up with c:\slideshow on your machine.
- 4) Add the following reg key:
[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Picture It!\9.0\Passport]
"Host"=http://hipdevfe5 <http://hipdevfe5/> (could also be test.next.en-us.hip.moonport.com once deployed to Saturn)
- 5) Run host.exe from your machine (one of the files you just copied)
- 6) Click "Run Test Scenario" --> "Simulate Mistral email" (ctrl-s)
- 7) Click "Insert Photos"
- 8) Select some photos in the Photo Picker and click OK.
- 9) Click "Prepare Slideshow Preview"
- 10) Once it says "Preview Ready" click "Launch Slideshow Preview"
- 11) This is what users will see when they click "preview slideshow" while composing the mail. When finished looking at the preview, click "close and return to email".

12) Enter a Passport username and password that is valid for test.next.

13) The Photos will start publishing in the background.

13) Next, you will see an HTML page. This page contains the same links that will be included in the PhotoMails. The first one (#0) is a link to the first photo. This is also used for the "view slideshow" link that takes you to the start of the slideshow. The other links will also open the slideshow, but will take to to a specific picture. These will be used when the recipient clicks on a specific photo in the email.

14) Once the photos are done publishing (go back to the tool and check the progress in the original window), click one of the links and enjoy your slideshow!